

FEDERAL REGISTER

Vol. 67, No. 144

Notices

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (DOC)

Economics and Statistics Administration

Bureau of the Census

[Docket Number 020723173-2173-01]

RIN 0607-ZA05

**Voting Rights Act Amendments of 1992, Determinations Under Section 203**

67 FR 48871

**DATE:** Friday, July 26, 2002

**ACTION:** Notice of determination.

**SUMMARY:** The notice's purpose is to publish the Bureau of the Census (Census Bureau) Director's determination as to which political subdivisions are subject to the minority language assistance provisions of Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 26, 2002.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information regarding this notice, please contact Ms. Catherine M. McCully, Chief, Census Redistricting Data Office, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce, Federal Building 3, Room 3631, 301-457-4039.

For information regarding the statutory provisions, enforcement, or compliance, contact Mr. Joseph D. Rich, Chief, Voting Section-NWB, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20530, 1-800-253-3931 or 202-307-2767, or visit the Voting Section Internet site at [www.usdoj.gov/crt/voting](http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/voting) >.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In August 1992, Congress amended the Voting Rights Act of 1965, Title 42, *United States Code*, 1973 *et seq.* (See Public Law 102-344.) Among other changes, the minority language assistance provision set forth in Section 203 of the Act was extended to August 6, 2007. Section 203 mandates that a state or political subdivision must provide language assistance to voters if more than 5 percent of the voting age citizens are members of a single-language minority group who do not "speak or understand English adequately enough to participate in the electoral process" and if the rate of those citizens who have not completed the fifth grade is higher than the national rate of voting age citizens who have not completed the fifth grade. When a state is covered for a particular language minority group, an exception is made for any political subdivision in which less than 5 percent of the voting age citizens are members of the minority group and are limited in English proficiency, unless the political subdivision is covered independently. A political subdivision also is covered if more than 10,000 of the voting age citizens are members of a

single-language minority group, do not "speak or understand English adequately enough to participate in the electoral process," and the rate of those citizens who have not completed the fifth grade is higher than the national rate of voting age citizens who have not completed the fifth grade.

Finally, if more than 5 percent of the American Indian or Alaska Native voting age citizens residing within an American Indian Reservation (and off-reservation trust lands) are members of a single language minority group, do not "speak or understand English adequately enough to participate in the electoral process," and the rate of those citizens who have not completed the fifth grade is higher than the national rate of voting age citizens who have not completed the fifth grade, any political subdivision, such as a county, which contains all or any part of that Indian reservation, is covered by the minority language assistance provision set forth in Section 203. An American Indian Reservation is defined as any area that is an American Indian or Alaska Native area identified for purposes of the decennial census. For Census 2000, these areas were identified by the federally-recognized tribal governments, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and state governments. The Census Bureau worked with American Indian tribes and Alaska Natives to identify statistical areas, such as Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Areas, State-Designated American Indian Statistical Areas, and Alaska Native Village Statistical Areas.

Pursuant to Section 203, the Census Bureau Director has the responsibility to determine which states and political subdivisions are subject to the minority language assistance provisions of [\*48872] Section 203. The states and political subdivisions obligated to comply with the requirements are listed in the attachment.

Section 203 also provides that "determinations of the Director of the Census under this subsection shall be effective upon publication in the **Federal Register** and shall not be subject to review in any court." Therefore, as of this date, those jurisdictions that are listed as covered by Section 203 have a legal obligation to provide the minority language assistance prescribed by Section 203 of the Act. In the cases where a state is identified as covered, those counties or county equivalents not displayed in the attachment are exempt from the obligation. Those jurisdictions subject to Section 203 of the Act previously, but not included on the list below, are no longer obligated to comply with Section 203. The previous determinations under Section 4(f)(4) of the Voting Rights Act remain in effect and are unaffected by this determination. (*See* Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 55, Appendix.)

Dated: July 22, 2002.

**Charles Louis Kincannon,**

*Director, Bureau of the Census.*

Covered Areas for Voting Rights Bilingual Election Materials—2000  
[CALIFORNIA ONLY]

State and political subdivision	Group
California:	
State Coverage	Hispanic.
Alameda County	Hispanic.
Alameda County	Chinese.
Colusa County	Hispanic.
Contra Costa County	Hispanic.
Fresno County	Hispanic.
Imperial County	Hispanic.
Imperial County	American Indian (Central or South American).
Imperial County	American Indian (Yuman).
Kern County	Hispanic.
Kings County	Hispanic.
Los Angeles County	Hispanic.
Los Angeles County	Chinese.
Los Angeles County	Filipino.
Los Angeles County	Japanese.
Los Angeles County	Korean.
Los Angeles County	Vietnamese.
Madera County	Hispanic.
Merced County	Hispanic.
Monterey County	Hispanic.
Orange County	Hispanic.
Orange County	Chinese.
Orange County	Korean.
Orange County	Vietnamese.
Riverside County	Hispanic.
Riverside County	American Indian (Central or South American).
Sacramento County	Hispanic.
San Benito County	Hispanic.
San Bernardino County	Hispanic.
San Diego County	Hispanic.
San Diego County	Filipino.
San Francisco County	Hispanic.
San Francisco County	Chinese.
San Joaquin County	Hispanic.
San Mateo County	Hispanic.
San Mateo County	Chinese.
Santa Barbara County	Hispanic.
Santa Clara County	Hispanic.
Santa Clara County	Chinese.
Santa Clara County	Filipino.
Santa Clara County	Vietnamese.
Stanislaus County	Hispanic.
Tulare County	Hispanic.
Ventura County	Hispanic.